## Chamber Choir Syllabus

**Class: Room 1510**

**Class Days: Block Schedule 4B**

**Course Description:**

**The Chamber Choir is designed to perfect and perform Level 4 music and above. Although primarily performance based, there is a strong emphasis on sight-reading, ear training, and advanced music theory. The course is designed to explore literature styles including classical, madrigal, and popular to be performed at public performances and IHSA contest.**

**Objectives:**

1. Positive Attitude
2. Vocal Technique
	1. Utilize correct breathing technique
	2. Sing with good tone quality
	3. Demonstrate correct diction
	4. Demonstrate phrasing
	5. Ability to sing vocal part individually
	6. Be strong singers in section
3. Music Reading Skills
	1. Demonstrate working knowledge of rhythm and time signatures
	2. Major & minor scales
	3. Major, minor, diminished, and augmented triads
	4. Recognize key of the work being studied
	5. Identify music terms
	6. Understand and demonstrate rhythm patterns
	7. Evaluate concert performances through critical listening
4. Performance
	1. Demonstrate correct posture while singing
	2. Participate in physical and vocal warm-ups
	3. Demonstrate an awareness of ensemble effort
	4. Demonstrate stage presence and poise

**Text and Materials:**

1. Various sight-singing texts and handouts, article reviews
2. Various selections of Level 3- 4 choral literature
3. Selected video and audio selections
4. SMART Music lessons - establish an account, join my classes
5. Noteflight.com account - create an account
6. Ebackpack

**Classroom Procedures:**

1. Stay in the room and in assigned seat
2. Raise hand to ask a question
3. Respect teacher, other students, and property
4. Give best effort at all times
5. Be prepared with music, folder, and pencil when class begins
6. Strive to improve at all times
7. Put trash in the trash can
8. Gum chewing is NOT allowed
9. Always be a listener, you can learn a great deal about how to sing by listening to each other

**Content:**

Students are expected to perform at a high level of musicianship while in the chamber choir. This group will be performing pieces of music with or without accompaniment. The students will be expected to sing with confidence and not rely on others to hold the sections together. The requirements of this class are preparing for all concerts, preparing inside and outside of the classroom. Other requirements of this class are: ILMEA scales, proper posture, correct breathing, and follow concert expectations, learn song vocabulary, elements of music, and complete literacy sheets outlining these expectations. Students will also have weekly SMART Music assignments reinforcing sight singing and rhythm activities. Students also will be required to work on a music composition each semester. This class will have public performances, school performances, the National Anthem performances, Madrigal Dinner, Augustana Festival, IHSA solo and ensemble,IHSA Organization Contest, and many other opportunities to perform. This class also will have rehearsal outside the normal school day for Madrigal. Optional content will include: ILMEA auditions, additional festivals, and honor choirs, i.e. Highland Festival, Millikin Honor Choir, Youth in Harmony Barbershop Festival.

**Grading:**

1. Formative Assessments (20%) – Students will be evaluated weekly on rehearsal, ensemble, and audience skills. The necessary skills for this grade will include breathing, posture, tone quality, concentration, listening to self and others, not bothering other’s performances, sitting quietly when not singing, music and supplies out, effective volume within the group, singing your part, and blending with the group. Other formative grades will be SMART Music singing exams, SMART Music rhythm performance exams, worksheets, and quizzes.
2. Summative Assessments (80%) – Scores for summative will be tests over material taught, singing exams, and the final performance for each quarter. Each student will also write one composition a semester. Semester finals are also 80%, the semester final will have a performance portion to the exam.
* Exemption from semester final will be given with the acceptance of a student in District VIII ILMEA festival and All-State, and selection to All-Conference Choir because of the extreme preparation needed to be accepted to these events.